United Nations CRC/SP/SR.19

Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Distr.: General
30 January 2009

Original: English

Twelfth meeting

Summary record of the 19th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 16 December 2008, at 10 a.m.

Temporary Chairperson: Mr. Mbaidjol (Representative of the Secretary-General)
Chairperson: Mr. Pramudwinai ..... (Thailand)
later: Mr. Christian (Vice-Chairperson) ..... (Ghana)

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08-65231 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Opening of the Meeting by the representative of the Secretary-General

1. **The Temporary Chairperson**, speaking on behalf of the Secretary-General, said that since the eleventh meeting of States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the two Optional Protocols to the Convention had received wide attention among Member States. There were currently 125 States parties to the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict and 129 States parties to the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. While those instruments would increase the protection available to children worldwide, monitoring of their implementation had added to the already heavy workload of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. With 193 States parties, the Convention remained the most widely accepted international human rights instrument. He welcomed States parties' support for the work of the Committee and, in particular, its request to meet in two parallel chambers in order to address the backlog of reports pending consideration. Currently, the Committee considered the reports of 30 States parties each year. If the General Assembly adopted the draft resolution on the rights of the child (A/C.3/63/L.16/Rev.1), which had already been adopted by the Third Committee, that number would increase to 46 in 2010.

2. Like other treaty bodies, the Committee had pursued the development of its general comments which provided States parties with guidance on aspects of the Convention. To date, 10 such comments had been adopted. The Committee also convened annual days of general discussion; the most recent, held in September 2008, had been devoted to the right of the child to education in emergency situations. In 2009, it would like to devote time to commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention. The Committee had initiated the study on violence against children, prepared by the independent expert appointed by the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 57/90 (A/61/299), by submitting a recommendation to the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly. It looked forward to the appointment of a special representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children and to close cooperation on that important issue.

Election of the Chairperson

3. **Mr. Badji** (Senegal) nominated Mr. Pramudwinai (Thailand) for the office of Chairperson of the Meeting.

4. *Mr. Pramudwinai (Thailand) was elected Chairperson of the meeting by acclamation.*

5. *Mr. Pramudwinai (Thailand) took the Chair.*

Adoption of the agenda (CRC/SP/39)

6. *The agenda was adopted.*

7. **The Chairperson** drew attention to rules 2 and 3 of the rules of procedure, contained in document CRC/SP/5, and said he had been informed that the Secretary-General had yet to receive proper credentials from a number of the States parties represented at the meeting. He urged those States parties to submit the credentials of their representatives to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and suggested that, in accordance with rule 3, the representatives of those States parties should be entitled provisionally to participate in the meeting.

8. *It was so decided.*

Election of other officers of the Meeting

9. *Mr. Christian (Ghana), Mr. Garayev (Azerbaijan) and Ms. Pi (Uruguay) were elected Vice-Chairpersons.*

Election of nine members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in accordance with article 43 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child as amended by General Assembly resolution 50/155 (CRC/SP/40 and Add.1 and 2)

10. **The Chairperson**, drawing attention to paragraphs 2, 3 and 5 of article 43 of the Convention, recalled that in accordance with article 43, as amended, nine Committee members were to be elected for a term of four years by secret ballot from a list of persons nominated by States parties. That list was contained in document CRC/SP/40 and Add.1. The nominations of candidates from Lebanon and Suriname had been withdrawn, as reflected in document CRC/SP/40/Add.2.

11. *At the invitation of the Chairperson, Mr. N'Gbichi (Côte d'Ivoire), Ms. Carvalho (Portugal) and Ms. Pi (Uruguay) acted as tellers.*

12. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

Number of ballot papers:	188
Number of valid ballots:	188
Number of representatives voting:	188
Required majority:	95
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Zermatten (Switzerland)	125
Ms. **Lee** Yanghee (Republic of Korea)	121
Mr. Pollar (Uganda)	118
Mr. Koompraphant (Thailand)	106
Ms. Maurás Perez (Chile)	98
Mr. Guráň (Slovakia)	93
Ms. Zammit (Malta)	89
Ms. Al-Asmar (Syrian Arab Republic)	88
Ms. Villarán de la Puente (Peru)	83
Mr. Konis (Cyprus)	79
Ms. Varmah (Mauritius)	78
Ms. Linares Cantillo (Colombia)	77
Ms. Jean-François (Haiti)	77
Ms. Moosa (Oman)	77
Mr. Adjai (Benin)	71
Mr. Zoungrana (Burkina Faso)	65
Ms. Al-Jaifi (Yemen)	50
Mr. Maliuta (Ukraine)	42
Mr. Hamidi (Afghanistan)	40
Mr. Simon Campaña (Ecuador)	29

13. *Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Koompraphant (Thailand), Ms.* ***Lee*** *Yanghee (Republic of Korea), Ms. Maurás Pérez (Chile), Mr. Pollar (Uganda), and Mr. Zermatten (Switzerland) were elected members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.*

14. *Mr. Christian (Ghana), Vice-Chairperson, took the Chair.*

15. **The Chairperson** said that since only five candidates had obtained the required majority, a second ballot would be held to fill the remaining four vacancies on the Committee. In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention (CRC/SP/5), the second ballot should be restricted to the candidates who had obtained the largest number of votes in the previous ballot and candidatures limited to not more than twice the number of places remaining to be filled. However, since three candidates — Ms. Linares Cantillo (Colombia), Ms. Amilcar Jean-François (Haiti) and Ms. Moosa (Oman) — had received the same number of votes, he suggested that all three should be included in the second ballot, bringing the total number of candidates eligible for election to nine.

16. *It was so decided.*

17. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

18. **The Chairperson** said that the result of the vote would be announced at the twentieth meeting.

The meeting rose at 12.35 p.m.

United Nations CRC/SP/SR.20

Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Distr.: General
6 February 2009

Original: English

Twelfth Meeting

Summary record of the 20th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 16 December 2008, at 3 p.m.

Chairperson: Mr. Pramudwinae ..... (Thailand)

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Election of nine members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in accordance with article 43 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child as amended by General Assembly resolution 50/155 (*continued*)

Closure of the Meeting

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08-65237 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

Election of nine members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in accordance with article 43 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child as amended by General Assembly resolution 50/155 (*continued*) (CRC/SP/40 and Add. 1 and 2)

1. **The Chairperson** recalled that in the first ballot held at the 19th meeting, only five candidates had obtained the required majority. Accordingly, a second ballot, restricted to the nine candidates who had obtained the largest number of votes in the previous ballot without having obtained the required majority, had been held at that meeting in order to fill the remaining four vacancies on the Committee.

2. *The results of the vote taken by secret ballot were*:

Number of ballot papers:	188
Number of valid ballots:	188
Number of representatives voting:	188
Required majority:	95
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Al-Asmar (Syrian Arab Republic)	100
Mr. Guráň (Slovakia)	95
Ms. Villarán de la Puente (Peru)	93
Ms. Varmah (Mauritius)	86
Ms. Zammit (Malta)	76
Ms. Jean-François (Haiti)	72
Ms. Moosa (Oman)	71
Ms. Linares Cantillo (Colombia)	65
Mr. Konis (Cyprus)	61

3. *Having obtained the required majority, Ms. Al-Asmar (Syrian Arab Republic) and Mr. Guráň (Slovakia) were elected members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.*

4. **The Chairperson** said that since fewer than four candidates had obtained the required majority, a third ballot, restricted to the four candidates who had obtained the largest number of votes in the previous ballot without having obtained the required majority, would be held to fill the remaining two vacancies.

5. *At the invitation of the Chairperson, Mr. N'Gbichi (Côte d'Ivoire), Ms. Carvalho (Portugal) and Ms. Li (Uruguay) continued to act as tellers.*

6. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

Number of ballot papers:	180
Number of valid ballots:	180
Number of abstentions:	2
Number of representatives voting:	178
Required majority:	90
Number of votes obtained:	
Ms. Villarán de la Puente (Peru)	104
Ms. Varmah (Mauritius)	91
Ms. Zammit (Malta)	72
Ms. Jean-François (Haiti)	71

7. *Having obtained the required majority, Ms. Villarán de la Puente (Peru) and Ms. Varmah (Mauritius) were elected members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.*

Closure of the Meeting

8. **The Chairperson** declared the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child closed.

The meeting rose at 4.15 p.m.